

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

D-253

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC

St. John's Chapel, Great Choptank Parish

AND/OR COMMON

St. John's Church, Great Choptank Parish

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER Cambridge Hudson Road (MD 343)

(nine miles west of Cambridge, Md. on SR 343)

CITY, TOWN

Cornersville

VICINITY OF

8th
CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

8th

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

Dorchester

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE <input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL <input type="checkbox"/> PARK
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL <input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC ACQUISITION	<input type="checkbox"/> ACCESSIBLE	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT <input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL <input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Great Choptank Parish

Telephone #: 228 - 3161

STREET & NUMBER

P. O. Box 456

CITY, TOWN

Cambridge

VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

Md. 21613

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Dorchester County Court House, Land Records Office (copy attached)

STREET & NUMBER

High & Spring Streets

CITY, TOWN

Cambridge

STATE

Md. 21613

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

St. John's Prot. Episcopal Church

DATE

June 12, 1891

(copy attached)

☐ FEDERAL ☐ STATE ☐ COUNTY ☐ LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

Dorchester County Court House

CITY, TOWN

Cambridge

STATE

Md. 21613

7 DESCRIPTION

D-253

CONDITION

☒ EXCELLENT

☐ GOOD

☐ FAIR

☐ DETERIORATED

☐ RUINS

☐ UNEXPOSED

CHECK ONE

☐ UNALTERED

☐ ALTERED

CHECK ONE

☒ ORIGINAL SITE

☐ MOVED

DATE _____

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

see attached 7. Description

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

7. DESCRIPTION

page 1

The church building is located in the center of the property on the south side of Hudson Road (SR 343) leading west from Cornersville to Hills Point and is approximately nine miles west of Cambridge, Maryland in the Neck District of Dorchester County. This church is the original building built in 1852 and completed in 1853. It is simple country gothic architecture. The main part of the church is about forty feet long, twenty feet wide and the double gabled roof is twenty five feet tall. The sanctuary measures ten feet wide by six feet deep on the south end of the church. The narthex is about eight feet long by eight feet wide on the north end of the church. The sacristy was eleven feet long and eight feet wide on the southwest corner of the building. The entire structure was erected of local woods. The framing was made of hand hewn and hand sawn timbers mortised and pegged. The nails used in the framing and the bevel siding were hand forged.

During the year of 1939 the Bell Tower was added to the church. It was built entirely of wood to match the architecture of the original church. This tower is eight feet by eight feet and twenty seven feet high with a large bell hung in the upper part.

In the year of 1956 the Sacristy was enlarged to fourteen feet long by eleven feet wide to accommodate the vestments, choir robes and the activities of the Women's Auxillary. This addition also perfectly matches the original church building. Also during this period a chain link fence was erected on three sides of the property and a split rail fence was erected along the front of the property facing the road.

In 1966 a Parish House was built to accommodate the growing needs of the church activities including Sunday School, the Women's Auxillary and the social functions of this congregation. This is a frame building with first quality aluminum siding in keeping with the theme of the church building. During 1968 a thirty six foot wide strip of land was added to the rear of the church property and made a part of the cemetery.

In the last two years necessary renovations and improvements to St John's building and grounds have been completed. Some of the major items that have been accomplished are;

- several hundred feet of drain pipe was installed to drain off surplus water on the grounds.
- several truckloads of gravel was spread over the driveway area.
- a new heating furnace was installed in the rear of the church.
- new brick pilings were built under the building and existing

7. DESCRIPTION (continued)

page 2

- pilings were rebuilt
- deteriorated sections of the wooden supports under the building were replaced with treated timber
- a concrete gutter was installed along the west side of the building to drain off rain water from the roof and adjoining ground.
- loose plaster was replaced and cracks filled.
- walls, ceiling, floors,woodwork and pews painted
- new carpeting on the church floor.

The entire church property consisting of approximately one acre of land on which stands a church, parish house and a cemetery is maintained in impeccable condition through the efforts of members of the congregation on a volunteer basis.

This church was opened and consecrated for public worship on April 16, 1853. It remained open as a place of public worship until the year 1892 when it was closed due to lack of use. During the year 1918 St John's was opened for public worship in the Neck District. After a period of eleven years the church was closed in 1929. However in 1936 St John's reopened for the third time and has remained open for public worship on a regular basis in the Neck District.

8 SIGNIFICANCE

D-253

PERIOD		AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> RELIGION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)	
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION			

SPECIFIC DATES

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

see attached 8. Statement of Significance

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

8. Statement of Significance

page 1

From an architectural point of view St John's Church is a classic example of simple country gothic. The unpretentious lines enhanced by the white finish on the exterior of the church give it a chaste beauty rarely found. The early pointed windows with the imperfect flat drawn glass panes and triangular transom double front doors also add charm to the entire setting. The interior of the church also contributes to a pleasant sensation of divine solitude. There are twelve white pews on each side of the church facing the white trimmed sanctuary with double pointed windows and old glass panes. The walls are plastered with wood wainscoting up approximately three feet. The plastered walls are painted a soft green and the woodwork is painted a pale blue green. Lighting is provided by candle sconces and old glass oil lamps mounted on the walls. The additions of the bell tower and the sacristy are both in accordance with the original theme of the church.

From a religious standpoint this historic St John's Church, Great Choptank Parish known as St John's Chapel was built in 1852 and consecrated on April 16, 1853 by the Right Reverend Henry John Whitehouse, Bishop of Illinois acting for Right Reverend W. B. Whittingham, Bishop of Maryland. The Reverend Theodore P. Barber, Rector, Great Choptank Parish, from 1849 through 1892, was responsible for this new church located in the Neck District community of Dorchester County. Some sixty years prior to this time there was a place of worship close by called Chapel of Ease as noted in the following letter by Reverend Theodore P. Barber to the Right Reverend W. B. Whittingham, Bishop of Maryland;

Right Reverend and Dear Sir;

Cambridge, Sept 9th 1851

Perhaps I mentioned to you in the late visitation my long cherished hope of reviving the church services in the Neck District - a thickly settled neighborhood near Castle Haven. There was, at least sixty years ago a chapel in that vicinity - a rough wooden structure - in which Bishop Kemp ministered and I know not how many of his predecessors in the Rectorship of this Parish. But within the last fifty years or since the time of Dr Kemp no services have been held there, the chapel has long since disappeared; we can only establish its locality by the graves. A very few old residents recollect to have worshipped there in their boyhood.

Now the experiment has been partially tried to re-establishing our worship. I appointed a service in the school house some six weeks

8. Statement of Significance (continued)

page 2

ago. The congregation was so large that we adjourned to the woods. The same results followed at my second and third appointments. On last Sunday it rained very copiously, yet twenty seven worshippers were present. It is my hope, with God's Blessing, to erect a very simple chapel of wood, in which to hold services once a fortnight. As I have wished to proceed cautiously in this difficult enterprise, no communication has been made to you. I wished to see my way clearly before advising you, although the anticipated approval of my Bishop has been no slight encouragement to my poor endeavors, thus far by explaining our position. The obstacle which we encounter is the difficulty of establishing title to the old site. More than forty years has passed away since the ground has been enclosed in the neighboring field, only the space in the rear occupied by the graves is held sacred. The statute of limitations in the opinion of our lawyers (Judge Goldsborough included) effectually bars all claim.

Very respectfully & truly

Your servant in the Lord

Theodore P. Barber

The Great Choptank Parish was created by an Act of the Assembly and signed into law on June 8th 1692 by Lionel Coplay, Esq., 1st Royal Governor of Maryland on behalf of King William and Queen Mary of England under which the Province of Maryland was divided into thirty parishes of the Church of England. Later during 1725 an Act of the Assembly reduced the size of the Great Choptank Parish to about half by creating the St Mary's Chapel Parish from the northern portion of its territory. Then on November 20th 1868 the Diocese of Easton was established during the convention at Easton, Maryland by the churchmen of the nine counties located on the Eastern Shore. The visitations by the Bishop of Maryland to the Eastern Shore parishes were so infrequent that a sense of isolation from the rest of the Diocese was felt. Difficulty of travel from the other parts of Maryland to the Eastern Shore also contributed to the situation. The Great Choptank Parish became a part of the Diocese of Easton.

Reverend James Kemp served this early Chapel of Ease as Rector from 1790 through 1812. However nothing remains of this early chapel which was located close to Chapel Creek - so named after Bishop Kemp's chapel - and within five minutes walk to St John's Church.

The following Rectors conducted services during the period of time that St John's was open for public worship;

8. Statement of Significance (continued)

page 3

Reverend Theodore P. Barber	1849-1892
Reverend James L. Bryan - Assistant	1886-1902
Reverend Frank Lambert	1936-1941
Reverend Charles W. Hinton	1942-1946
Reverend Edward Thompson Jr.	1946-1951
Reverend Allan Whatley	1952-1969
Reverend Barclay Stanton Jr.	1962-1969
Reverend David B. Mulford	1969-1974
Reverend A. Benjamin Narbeth	1974-1975
Reverend J. Edwin Pippin	1975-

The following Bishops served the Great Choptank Parish;

Diocese of Maryland-

Right Reverend W. B. Whittingham

Diocese of Easton-

Right Reverend Henry Chamberlain Lay	1868-1885
Right Reverend William Forbes Adams	1887-1920
Right Reverend George W. Davenport	1920-1938
Right Reverend William McClelland	1939-1949
Right Reverend Allen Jerome Miller	1949-1966
Right Reverend George Alfred Taylor	1966-1975
Right Reverend William Moultrie Moore Jr.	1975

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Maryland Historical Society - Maryland Diocese Archives, Baltimore
Hall of Records - Upper House Journal, Annapolis
- Colonial Proceedings, Annapolis
Diocesan Center, Easton

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 1 plus

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

see EXHIBIT B for complete boundary description

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE

COUNTY

Maryland

Dorchester

STATE

COUNTY

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Laird E. Smith, Chairman, Executive Committee, St. John's Chapel

ORGANIZATION

DATE

June 8, 1981

STREET & NUMBER

TELEPHONE

RR 3, Box 124-2

301 228 9483

CITY OR TOWN

STATE

Cambridge

Maryland

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 267-1438

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST WORKSHEET

NOMINATION FORM
for the
NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES, NATIONAL PARKS SERVICE

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

1. NAME				
COMMON: St. John's Chapel				
AND/OR HISTORIC:				
2. LOCATION				
STREET AND NUMBER: Cambridge Hudson Road, Rt. 343, .2 mile east of Ross Neck Road				
CITY OR TOWN: Cambridge				
STATE Maryland		COUNTY: Dorchester		
3. CLASSIFICATION				
CATEGORY (Check One)		OWNERSHIP		STATUS
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object		<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress
		Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered		Yes: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)				
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural	<input type="checkbox"/> Government	<input type="checkbox"/> Park	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation	<input type="checkbox"/> Comments
<input type="checkbox"/> Commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> Industrial	<input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)	
<input type="checkbox"/> Educational	<input type="checkbox"/> Military	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Religious		
<input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Scientific		
4. OWNER OF PROPERTY				
OWNER'S NAME: Vestry of St. John's Chapel				
STREET AND NUMBER: RFD 3				
CITY OR TOWN: Cambridge		STATE: Maryland		21613
5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION				
COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC: Dorchester County Courthouse				
STREET AND NUMBER: High Street				
CITY OR TOWN: Cambridge		STATE: Maryland		21613
Title Reference of Current Deed (Book & Pg. #):				
6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS				
TITLE OF SURVEY:				
DATE OF SURVEY: <input type="checkbox"/> Federal <input type="checkbox"/> State <input type="checkbox"/> County <input type="checkbox"/> Local				
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:				
STREET AND NUMBER:				
CITY OR TOWN:		STATE:		

7. DESCRIPTION	
CONDITION	(Check One)
	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Good <input type="checkbox"/> Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated <input type="checkbox"/> Ruins <input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	<div>(Check One)</div> <div>(Check One)</div> <input type="checkbox"/> Altered <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unaltered <input type="checkbox"/> Moved <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site
DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (If known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE	
<p>St. John's Chapel is a very small structure, three bays deep and one wide, with the gable being the entrance side. In the middle of the gable is a vestibule, built separately from the body of the church. It has a very steep pitched Miter arch transom above the double doors. Each leaf of the door has two panels, surrounded by bolection moldings. On the northeast side of the structure is a small belfry with a Miter arch window and a small open belfry between the hip roof and octagonal spire. At the top of the spire, the apex of the vestibule and the apex of the main body of the church is a wooden cross.</p> <p>The chapel is well maintained and is located in a grove of old oak trees.</p>	

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

B. SIGNIFICANCE**PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)**

- | | | | |
|--|---------------------------------------|--|---------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Columbian | <input type="checkbox"/> 16th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 18th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 20th Century |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 15th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 17th Century | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 19th Century | |

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known)**AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)**

- | | | | |
|--|---|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal | <input type="checkbox"/> Education | <input type="checkbox"/> Political | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry | <input type="checkbox"/> Science | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture | _____ |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce | <input type="checkbox"/> Military | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input type="checkbox"/> Music | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation | | | |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The date 1853 is given for the construction of the building. Several of the chapels of Dorchester County have Miter arch windows, but this appears to be the first use of them in the county. The chapel appears to be the second chapel of ease built in the Neck District for the Great Choptank Parish, the first location being at Cornersville overlooking the waters of Chapel Creek with the Choptank River in the distance.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY				OR	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES			
CORNER	LATITUDE				LONGITUDE			
	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds		Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	
NW	°	'	"		°	'	"	
NE	°	'	"		°	'	"	
SE	°	'	"		°	'	"	
SW	°	'	"		°	'	"	

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY:

Acreage Justification:

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:

Michael Bourne, Architectural Consultant

ORGANIZATION

Maryland Historical Trust

DATE

May, 1975

STREET AND NUMBER:

Shaw House, 21 State Circle

CITY OR TOWN:

Annapolis

STATE

Maryland

21401

12.

State Liaison Officer Review: (Office Use Only)

Significance of this property is:

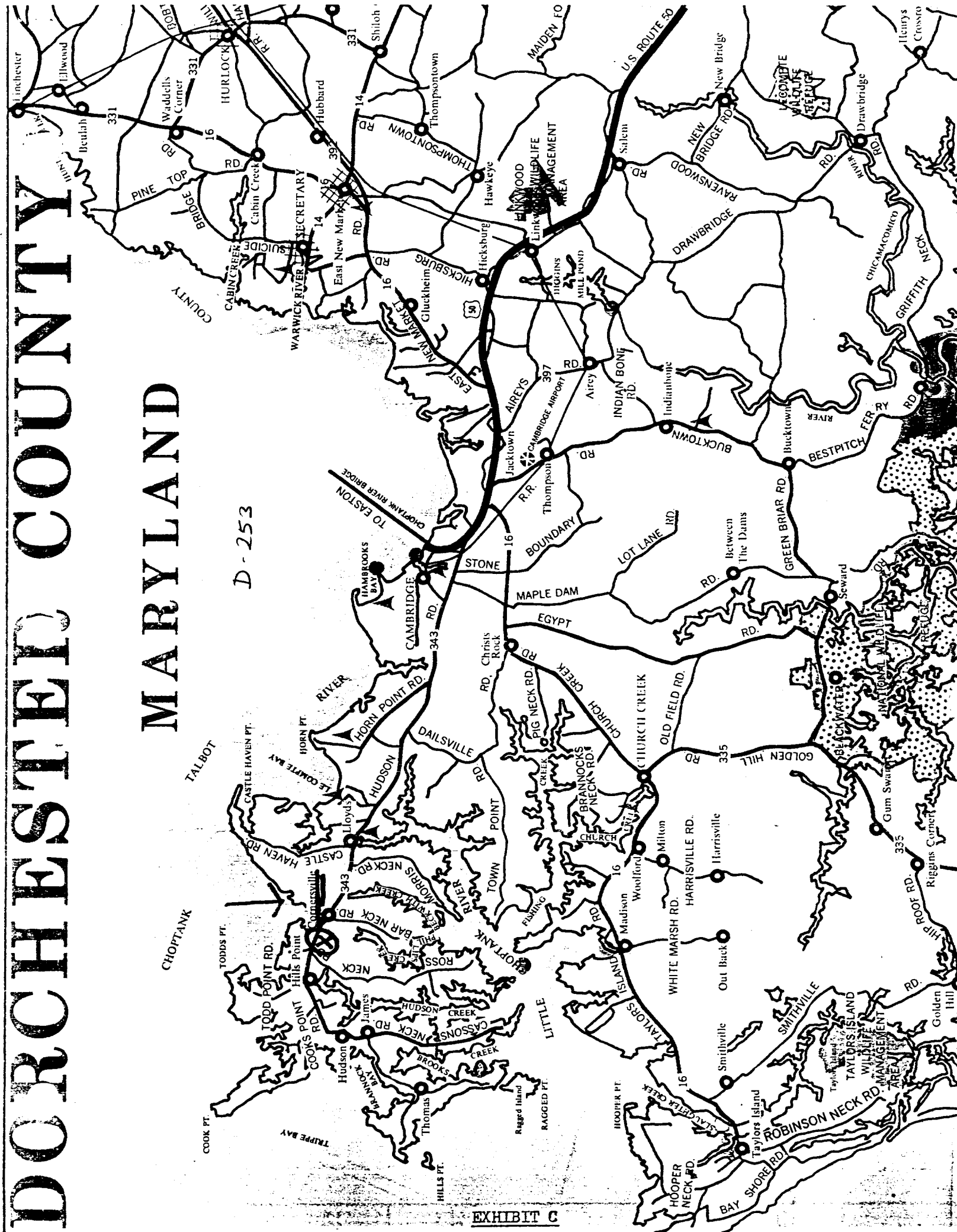
National ☐ State ☐ Local ☐

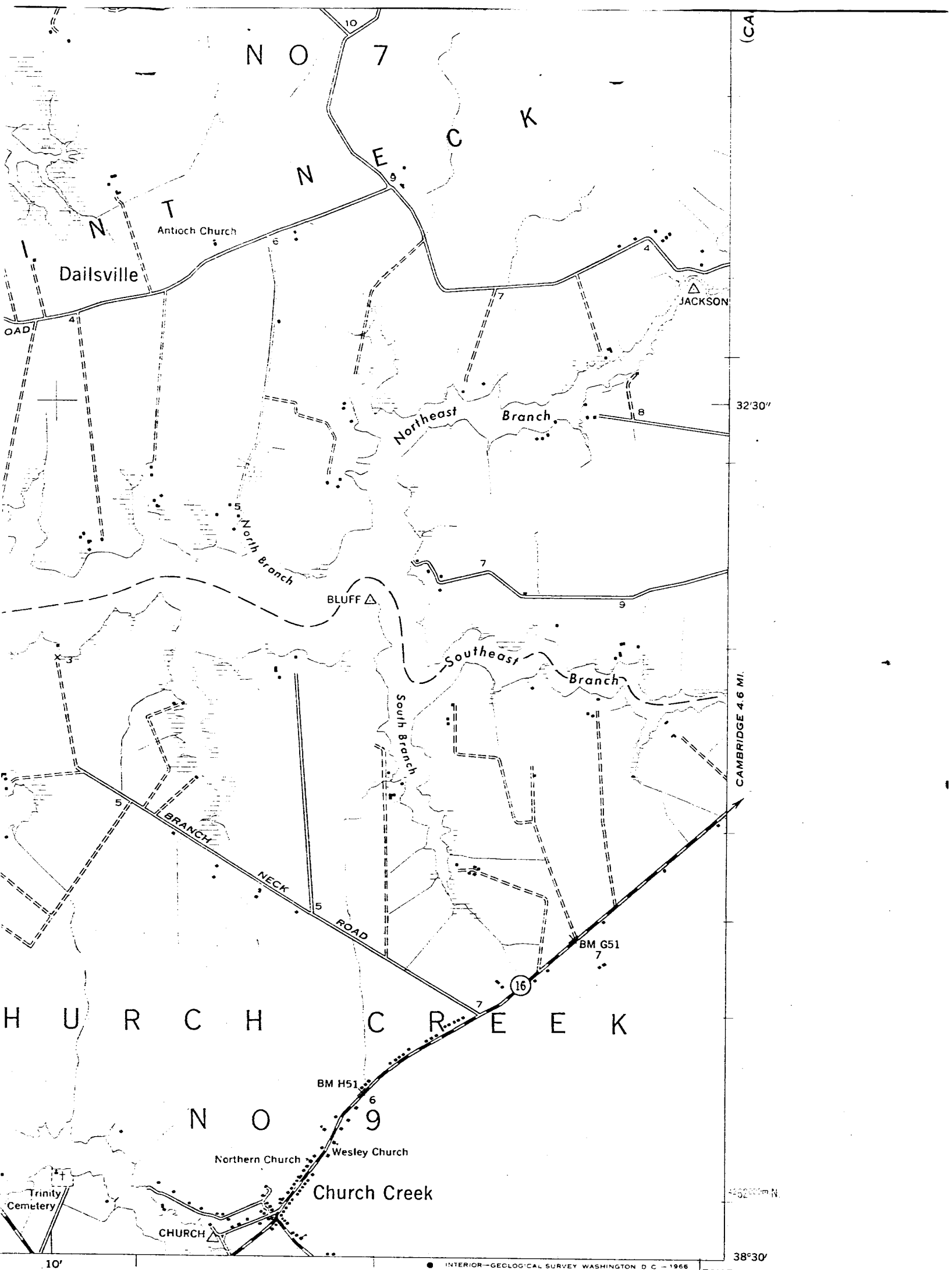
Signature

DORCHESTER COUNTY

MARYLAND

D-253





1 MILE

TRUE NORTH
MAGNETIC NORTH

APPROXIMATE MEAN DECLINATION, 1942

INTERIOR—GEOLOGICAL SURVEY WASHINGTON D C —1966

Polyconic projection. North American datum of 1927
Recoverable horizontal control stations of less than
third order accuracy are shown by a circle.
This map complies with the national standard
map accuracy requirements.

(BLACKWATER RIVER)

CHURCH CREEK, MD.
N3830—W7607.5/7.5

1942

D-253

SHMAN)

393970m E

76°15'

38°37'30"

12°30"

Todds Pt

Hangar

3 LANDING FIELD

Hills Point

BM F63

343

Chapel Cr.

BM E63

Corner

Zoar

HUDSON 0.8 MI

HUDSON NECK

Wrights

Phillips

BAR

DU PONT

Cherry Island

Elevated Tank

(SHARPS ISLAND)

BACK

HUDSON

ROSS NECK ROAD

4273230m N

D-253

35'

South 17 perches & 15 feet to a stone,
thence East 7 perches 13½ feet to
a stone on said division line, thence
with said division line North 16
perches to this beginning, containing
132 ⁴⁵/₁₀₀ Square perches of land.

D-253

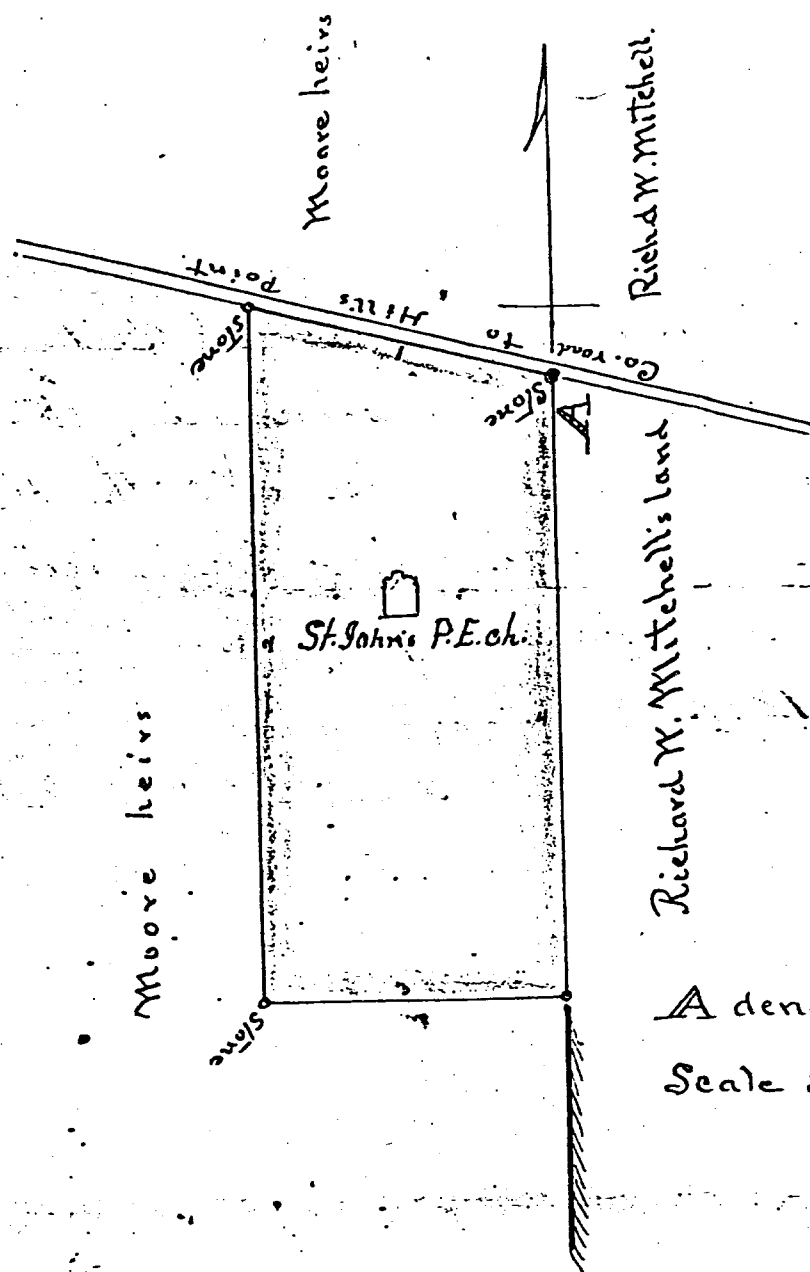
Surveyed 6/12/1891.

James M. Robertson,
Dep. Surveyor Dorco

Church lot
by Jas M Robertson
June 6 - 1891

St. John's Church

Plot & East



This certifies, that by the authority of Mess. Daniel H. LeCompte, Joseph Spedden, and Thomas B. Travers of Dorchester County, Md. I have surveyed and laid out a Church lot on which stands St. John's Prot. Episcopal Church in Neck district in said County. Beginning at a Stone on the South side of the County road leading from Cornumville to Hills Point, and on the line dividing the lands of Richard W. Mitchell from the lands of the Moore heirs: at A on the thence running with the South edge of said road, with an allowance of 4¹/₂ 45' thence variation - N 76° W 8 perches to a Stone - thence

five pieces to the place of buying, and containing
one acre of land more or less. together with all the
privileges, advantages and appurtenances thereto belong-
ing, or in any wise appertaining, and all the estate,
right, title and interest, trust, property, claim and
demand, whatsoever, at law and in equity, of them
the said John Wesley Mitchell and Mary Mitchell
or of either of them, of, in, and to the same.

To have and to hold the said herein described premises
with the appurtenances thereto belonging, unto the
said Vestry of Great Choptank Parish, and Their
successors, to the only proper use of the said Vestry
of Great Choptank Parish, and Their successors, for
ever.

And the said John Wesley Mitchell, for himself,
his heirs, executors and administrators and for every of
them, doth covenant, promise and agree, to and with
the said Vestry of Great Choptank Parish and Their
successors, by their presents, in manner and form
following that is to say. That he the said John
Wesley Mitchell, his heirs and assigns, the tract
and parcel of land and premises above described,
and herein mentioned to be granted, bargained and
sold, with the appurtenances, unto the said Vestry of
Great Choptank Parish and Their successors, shall
and will warrant and forever defend, by their presents,
against the claims of all persons whomsoever, claiming
in any manner, by, from, under, or in trust for them
said John Wesley Mitchell or his heirs.

In testimony whereof, the said John Wesley Mitchell
and Mary Mitchell, his wife, have hereunto set
their hands and seals on the day and year first
above written.

John Wesley Mitchell

Mary Mitchell
mark

(seal)

(seal)

This indenture made this Twentieth day of
December, in the year of our Lord, eighteen hundred and
and fifty one, between John Wesley Mitchell and
Mary Mitchell of Dorchester County, in the state
of Maryland, of one part, and Rev. Theodore P. Barber,
James Dixon, Brice S. Goldsborough, James B. Lake,
Joseph E. Munn, Jr., Samuel W. DeCompte, Alexander
De Bayly, R. Tilghman Goldsborough and Daniel M.
Henry, the Vestry of Great Choptank Parish, of the said
county and state, of the other part. Witnesseth, That
for and in consideration of the sum of twenty five dol-
lars, current money, by the said Vestry, to the said John
Wesley Mitchell, in hand paid, it and before the sealing
and delivery of these presents, - the receipt of which he doth
heavily acknowledge - the said John Wesley Mitchell and
Mary Mitchell, his wife, have bargained and sold
aliened and enfeoffed, and by these presents, do give,
grant, bargain and sell, alien, enfeoff, release, con-
vey and confirm unto the said Vestry of Great Chop-
tank Parish, and their successors, all that part of
the tract of land called "Mitchell's Garden," or by what
ever name, or names it may be called, lying in the
Neck District of Dorchester County aforesaid, and con-
tained within the following metes and bounds, courses
and distances, to wit: beginning at a bounded stone
standing on the South side of the County road leading from
Cambridge to Hill's Point and in the division line between
the said John Wesley Mitchell and Richard Mitchell
of divine, and from thence running with said division
line, South, two degrees, West, twenty perches, thence, North
eighty one degrees, West, eight perches, thence North two
degrees West, eight perches, thence North fifty two degrees
East, eight perches and two thirds of a perch, thence North
two degrees East, eight perches, to the County road, thence
running with said road South seventy four degrees East,

Signed, sealed and delivered
in the presence of.

Sam. Abbott, J.P.
James, H. Radcliff, J.P.

State of Maryland. Dorchester County, birth:

Be it remembered, and it is hereby certified,
that on this Twentieth - day of December: in the year
of our Lord, eighteen hundred and fifty one, before
the subscribers, two justices of the peace of the State of Ma-
ryland, in and for Dorchester County aforesaid, personally
appear John Wesley Mitchell and Mary Mitchell,
his wife, they being known to us to be the persons who
are named and described as, and professing to be,
the parties to the foregoing deed or indenture, and do
severally acknowledge the said indenture, or instrument
of writing, to be their respective act and deed: the
said Mary Mitchell having signed and sealed
said indenture before us, out of the presence and hearing
of her husband: and the said Mary Mitchell be-
ing by us examined, out of the presence and hearing of her
said husband, "whether she doth execute and acknowledge
the same freely and voluntarily, and without being induced
to do so by fear or threats of, or ill usage by her husband,
or by fear of his displeasure" she doth and saith, that
she doth. In testimony whereof, we hereunto subscribe
our names, on the day and year aforesaid.

Sam. Abbott, J.P.
James, H. Radcliff, J.P.

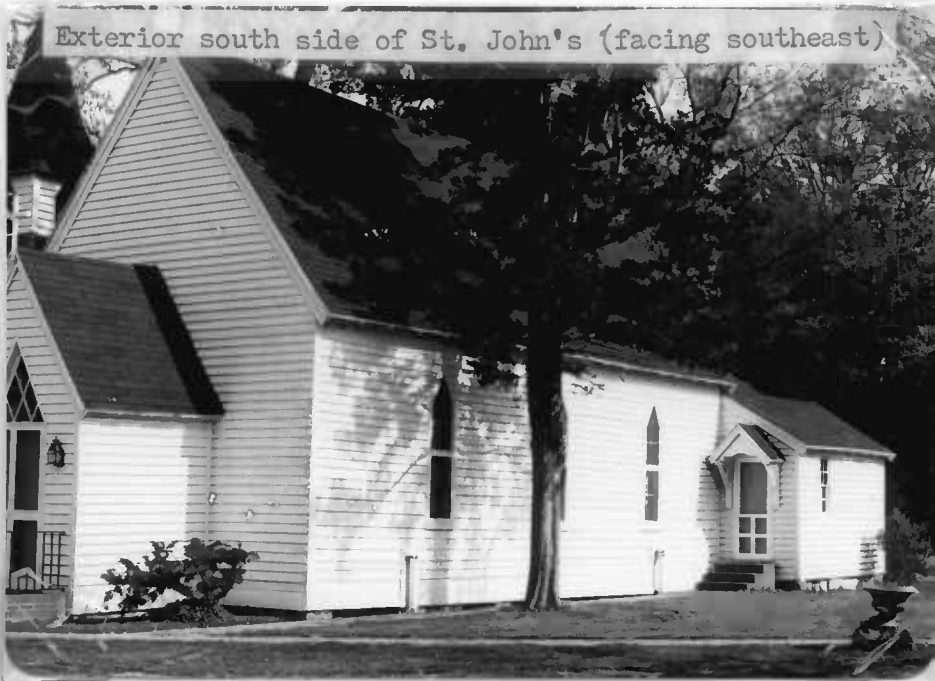
EXHIBIT A

Deed

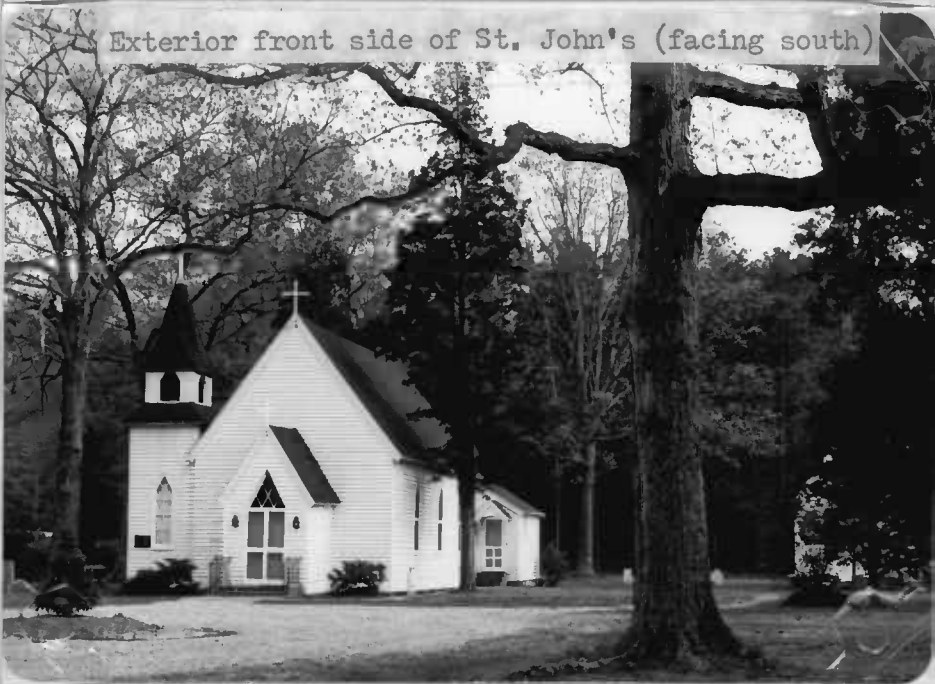
Exterior of St John's Parish House (facing south)



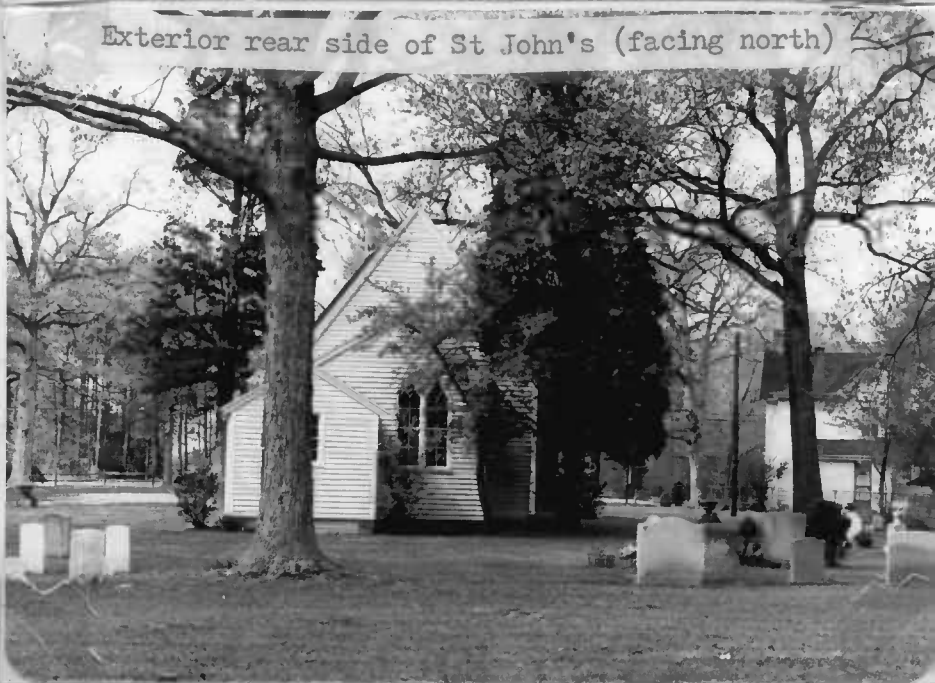
Exterior south side of St. John's (facing southeast)



Exterior front side of St. John's (facing south)



Exterior rear side of St John's (facing north)



Interior of St John's (facing south)



Black & White pictures and the

Color Pictures taken by

Laird Smith on April 27, 1981



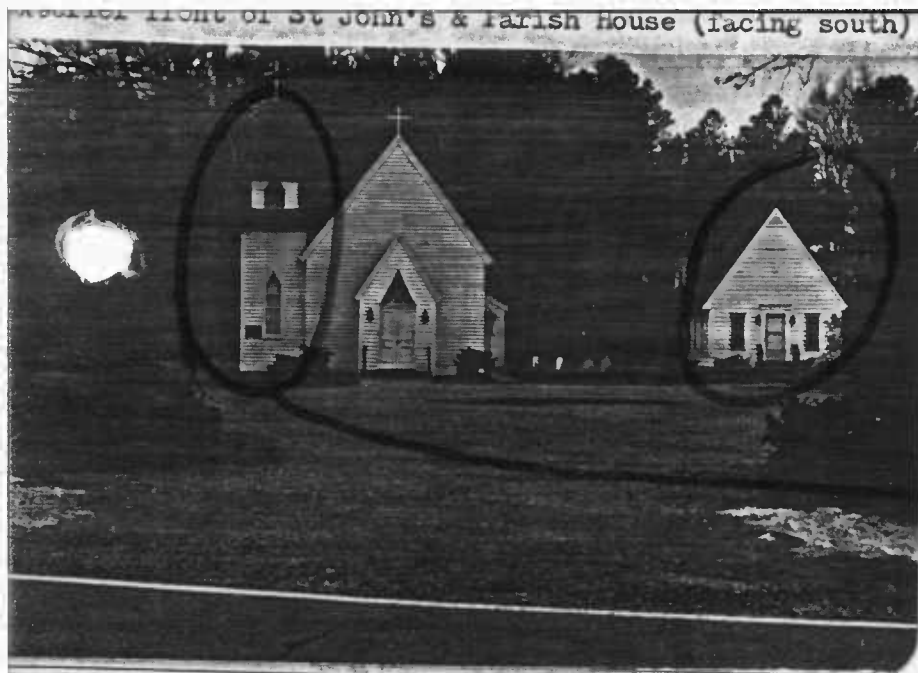
Interior of St John's (facing south)

Exterior front of St John's & Parish House (facing south)



Exterior rear & north side of St John's (facing northwest)





16

#46

D253

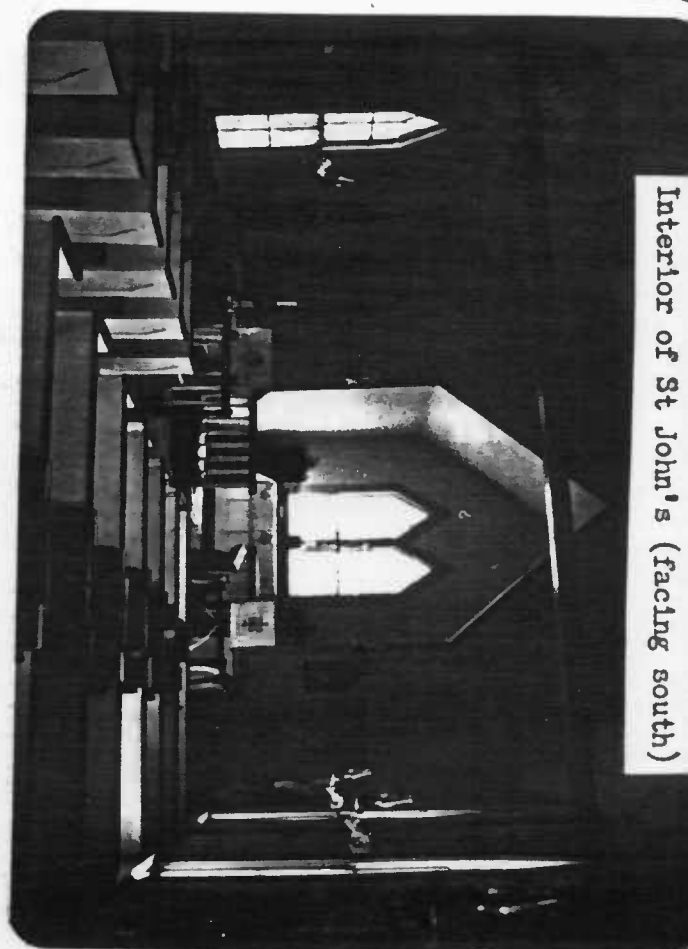
1966

added 1939

Black & White pictures and the
Color pictures taken by
Laird Smith on April 27, 1981

1956³

Black & White photograph of the rear and north side of St John's (facing northwest). The image shows the side of the church building, with a small, gabled structure in the foreground. The photograph is mounted on a larger sheet of paper.



Interior of St John's (facing south)

12x1-40

70%

D-253



St. John's Chapel

D-253

M. Bourne May 1975